

The Independent Weekend Edition & Free Press

KEN NUGENT
Publisher

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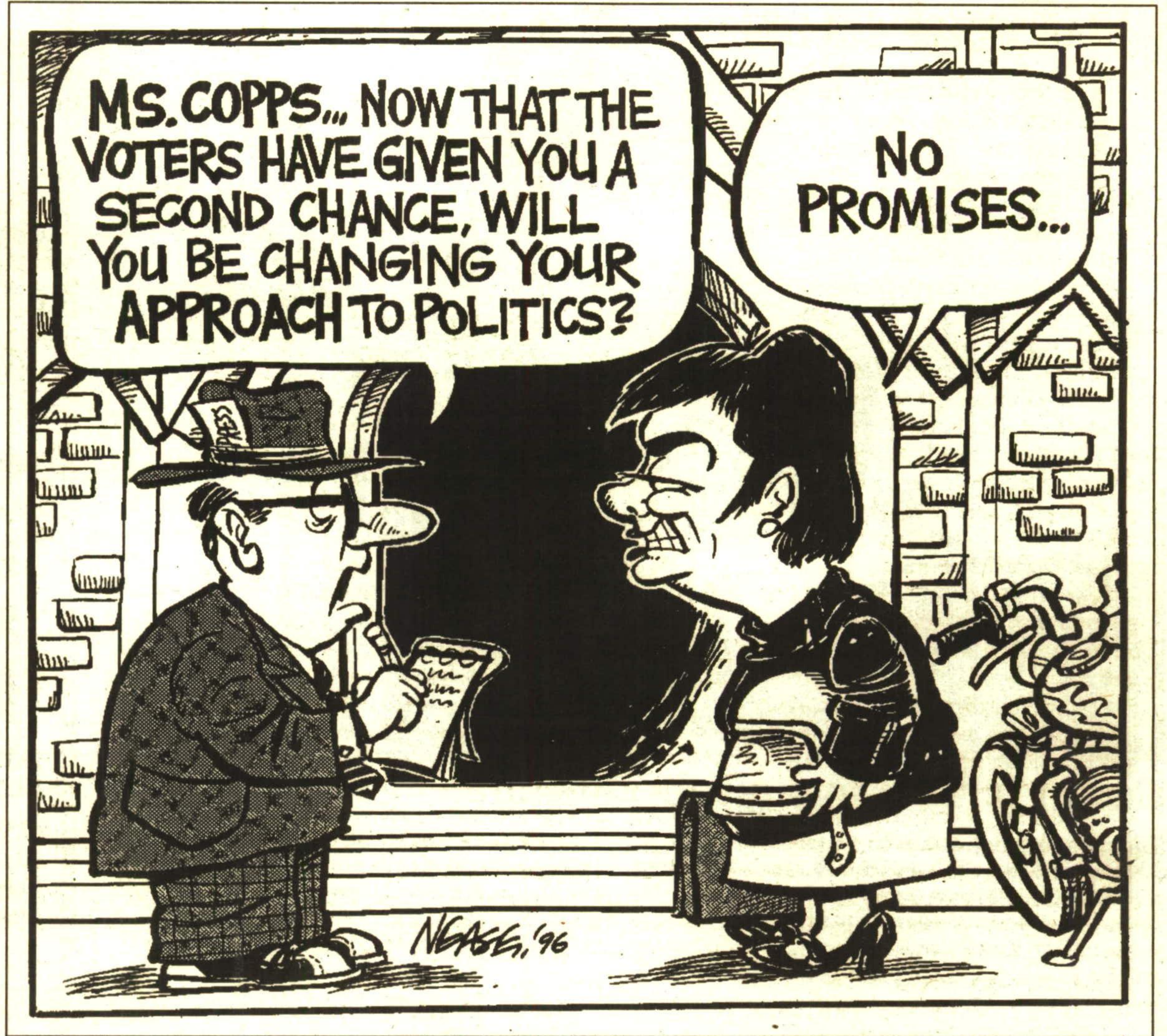
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Time to act

Many times this newspaper, town council, and the general public have accepted the antics of Ward 2 councillor Rob Heaton much like an indulgent parent tolerates a quarrelsome, and spoiled, child.

But no longer will this newspaper.

When town councillors took the precedent-setting step of tossing a colleague off a committee for serious misdeeds, it's time to examine Heaton's performance as a councillor.

Since being re-elected in the 1994 municipal election, Heaton has in the spring of 1995 refused to participate in the town direct deposit system and instead demanded immediate, and full, payment of the remainder of his current three year term — plus interest.

Later that year, after making public disparaging comments about a local business, a lawsuit against Heaton was filed. Taxpayers may have to cover his legal costs.

In April, town councillors voted to censure Heaton for releasing a confidential document and obstructing a staff member carrying out her duties.

Now this month, Heaton once again released confidential documents, obstructed the process, and refused to return confidential documents placing this town in a potentially serious litigation situation. We believe his record in his previous term was little better.

This town cannot have a recalcitrant child on its governing council, and we ask Heaton to either stop his juvenile behavior immediately or resign.

Workfare is socially regressive

Wrong to support

Dear editor,

So The Independent & Free Press enthusiastically supports workfare, sight unseen no less. It is curious that you compare it to the previous government's jobsOntario program, which for all its flaws, provided real jobs and training for people, on a voluntary basis. Workfare programs have been around for decades and seem to come into vogue when economic times are difficult and scapegoats are required. You may want to explain to your readers how forcing welfare recipients into spurious make-work projects will make them more employable or get them off assistance any faster.

It saddens me that a community newspaper so readily supports regressive social policy as a solution to complex fiscal problems.

Ian Wilson

Huge success

Dear editor,

Our food bank fundraiser at Halton Hills (Georgetown) IGA was a huge success!

A total of \$283.15 was raised

Our Readers Write

The Independent & Free Press welcomes letters to the editor from our readers. All letters must be signed and include an address and a daytime telephone number. Letters can be mailed, delivered to our office address at 211 Armstrong Ave., Georgetown, Ont., L7G 4X5, faxed to us at (905) 873-0398 or e-mailed to: independent.freepress@aztec-net.com

by the community to help incorporate a new food bank. Soon we will be able to become a legally registered charity and have a home. The following people/businesses should be patted on the back:

The Independent & Free Press, Virginia Bagin, Halton Hills IGA, Knechels, A & P,

Brian's Food Basics, Maple Lodge Farms, Home Hardware, J.M. Davis and Associates, Tim Hortons Donuts, The Label Factory, The Daniels Corp., Loblaws. Most of all, all the people who bought a hot dog and /or pop or donated money!

Colleen Brown
and all the volunteers

Letter of the day

Flogging dead horse futile

■ Please allow me to respond to Mr. Powell's letter of June 9 in which he expresses amazement that only 11 people attended Julian Reed's town hall meeting.

It is doubtful if apathy was the cause of the poor turnout. It is more likely that members of the community have simply recognized the futility of flogging a dead horse and no longer wish to participate in these hypocritical displays of concern for public opinion.

Mr. Reed has stated that he votes in parliament according to his personal conscience and moral views. In view of that fact, is it not a waste of time to engage in discussion with the man? It is apparent (and fortunate for him) that Mr. Reed's "personal conscience and moral views" agree with his party's policies.

If anyone can come up with a sure-fire way to make MPs accountable to their constituents, public interest in the political process will increase dramatically. Until such time the only effective way to communicate with politicians is at the polls on election day.

Eileen Hutcheson

